

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 58th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN BOB DEPRATU**, on January 8, 2003 at 9 A.M., in Room 405 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Bob DePratu, Chairman (R)  
Sen. Bob Story Jr., Vice Chairman (R)  
Sen. Jerry W. Black (R)  
Sen. John C. Bohlinger (R)  
Sen. Jon Ellingson (D)  
Sen. Jim Elliott (D)  
Sen. Bill Glaser (R)  
Sen. Dan Harrington (D)  
Sen. Walter McNutt (R)  
Sen. Mike Taylor (R)  
Sen. Ken Toole (D)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Lee Heiman, Legislative Branch  
Roberta Opel, Committee Secretary

**Video-taped Committees:** This is a video log of a committee hearing. The log provides a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. A video-taped recording of the meeting is available from the Montana Historical Society.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: SB 12, 1/8/2003  
Executive Action: None

#### **HEARING ON SB 12**

**Sponsor:** **SENATOR DAN HARRINGTON, SD, 19, BUTTE**, presented SB 12; stop the reduction of personal property tax.

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:** SENATOR DAN HARRINGTON opened on SB 12 which would eliminate the phase-out of class eight property taxes in tax year 2004 if certain wage and income conditions occur.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

9:10am Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT  
9:12am Gene Fenderson, MT. Progressive Labor Caucus  
9:14am Don Judge, representing himself

**Opponents' Testimony:**

9:21am Jim Mockler, MT. Coal Council  
9:23am Steve Eudy, Semitool and Kalispell Charter  
9:31am Mary Whittinghill, MT. Taxpayers Association  
9:32am Ellen Engstedt, MT Wood Products Association  
**EXHIBIT** (tas03a01)  
9:37am R. Johnson, representing himself  
9:38am Keith Olson, MT. Logging Association  
9:39am Nancy Schlepp, MT. Farm Bureau Federation  
9:40am Don Allen, Western Environmental Trade Association  
9:40am Bill Stephens, MT. Distributor's Association  
9:41am Byron Roberts, MT. Building Association  
9:42am Ronda Carpenter, Great Falls Area Chamber  
9:43am Carl Schwartz, Bozeman Chamber of Commerce

**Informational Witnesses and Testimony:**

Dennis Iverson, Montana Contractors' Association, Inc.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

9:44am SEN. ELLINGSON for Brad Simshaw  
Brad Simshaw responded  
9:49am SEN. ELLINGSON to Steve Eudy  
Steve Eudy responded  
9:51am SEN. ELLINGSON followup question for Steve Eudy  
Steve Eudy responded  
SEN. ELLINGSON followup question for Steve Eudy  
Steve Eudy responded  
9:57am SEN. MCNUTT for Brad Simshaw  
Brad Simshaw responded  
9:58am SEN. TAYLOR for Terry Johnson  
SEN. HARRINGTON responded  
10:02am SEN. TAYLOR for SEN. HARRINGTON

SEN. HARRINGTON responded  
10:05am SEN. TAYLOR to Eric Feaver  
Eric Feaver responded  
10:07am SEN. TAYLOR followup question for Eric Feaver  
Eric Feaver responded  
10:10am SEN. BOHLINGER for Mary Whittinghill  
Mary Whittinghill responded  
10:12am SEN. ELLIOTT for Steve Eudy  
Steve Eudy responded  
10:40am SEN. GLASER for Brad Simshaw  
Brad Simshaw deferred the question to Terry Johnson  
Terry Johnson responded  
10:41am SEN. GLASER followup question for Brad Simshaw  
Brad Simshaw responded  
10:43am SEN. GLASER followup question for Brad Simshaw  
Brad Simshaw responded  
10:44am SEN. TOOLE to Jim Mockler  
Jim Mockler responded  
10:46am SEN. ELLINGSON for Brad Simshaw  
Brad Simshaw responded  
10:48am SEN. STORY for Brad Simshaw  
Brad zSimshaw responded  
10:50am SEN. STORY for Terry Johnson  
Terry Johnson responded  
10:52am SEN. BLACK to Terry Johnson  
Terry Johnson responded  
10:57am SEN. DEPRATU for Ellen Engstedt  
Ellen Engstedt responded

Closing by Sponsor:

10:50am SEN. HARRINGTON closed on SB 12.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Adjournment: 10:56 A.M.**

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**SEN. BOB DEPRATU, Chairman**

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**ROBERTA OPEL, Secretary**

**BD/RO**

**EXHIBIT (tas03aad)**